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# GWAII HAANAS

HAIDA HERITAGE SITE & NATIONAL PARK RESERVE



*A Pacific coast wilderness in Haida  
Gwaii—the Queen Charlotte Islands.  
Protected through the cooperation of  
the Government of Canada and the  
Council of the Haida Nation.*



## **PUBLIC PLANNING PROGRAM    NEWSLETTER N° 1**

PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES STATEMENT

SEPTEMBER 1993

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*Produced by the*  
**ARCHIPELAGO  
MANAGEMENT  
BOARD**

*A copy of the Gwaii Haanas Agreement  
and a public response sheet are included  
with this newsletter.*

## A NOTE FROM THE ARCHIPELAGO MANAGEMENT BOARD

Gwaii Haanas is a globally significant protected area. It is jointly managed by the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation as a National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site. It represents a commitment shared by Canada and the Haida Nation to preserve the unique heritage for the benefit of this and future generations.

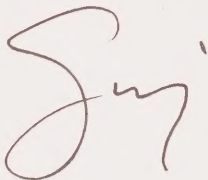
The environmental, social and economic realities of the future will present several management challenges for Gwaii Haanas. To deal with these challenges, the Management Board is developing a Strategic Management Plan. Your response to this newsletter will be one of the tools used to develop this plan.

This newsletter presents the first product of the planning process for public review: a draft Purpose & Objectives Statement. A copy of the formal agreement between the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation has been included so that you can understand the basis of the Purpose & Objectives Statement.

This statement sets the stage for the planning program by describing the natural and cultural heritage of Gwaii Haanas, and objectives for protection. A response form gives you the opportunity to comment on the statement and to tell us what you think Gwaii Haanas should look like into the next century.

The newsletter also includes a description of key management issues and presents an update on information that is being acquired to support planning, management and operations in the years to come.

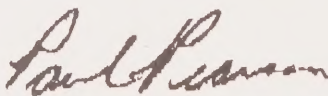
There will be continuing opportunities for you to participate in the development of the Gwaii Haanas strategic management plan.



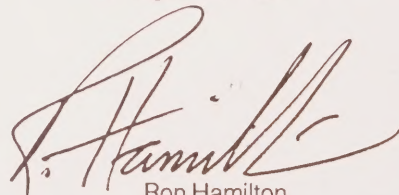
Guujaaw



G. Roger Hamilton



Paul Pearson  
*for the Haida*



Ron Hamilton  
*for Parks Canada*



## DESIGNATIONS & AGREEMENTS

In 1974, the dispute over the future of Gwaii Haanas began with the advent of logging plans and a public proposal to protect the "South Moresby Wilderness Area." In 1985, the Haida Nation designated Gwaii Haanas to be a "Haida Heritage Site." Logging continued in the area in the face of legal and political controversy until July of 1987, when Canada and British Columbia signed the *South Moresby Memorandum of Understanding*. One year later, the *South Moresby Agreement* was signed, providing for Canada's designation of a "National Park Reserve."

The agreement also provides for regional economic diversification, compensation to third parties, transfer of Crown land interests from BC to Canada, and protection of the area's marine waters at a later date.

In January of 1993, Canada and the Haida Nation signed the *Gwaii Haanas Agreement*, which deals with the intersecting land and non-tidal waters designated by Canada and by the Haida as protected (see map on back cover).

This agreement expresses respect for both Canadian and Haida interests and designations, and includes a mutual commitment to the protection of Gwaii Haanas. It sets out the terms of a co-management arrangement to be administered by a management board, pending the settlement of outstanding ownership and jurisdictional matters.



The *Archipelago Management Board*, with equal representation from Parks Canada and the Haida, makes consensus decisions on planning, management and operations. Board members are responsible to their respective government agencies for ensuring that legislation, policies and agreements are adhered to.

The negotiation and ratification of the *Gwaii Haanas Agreement* was a lengthy process. In the interim, Parks Canada and the Haida developed an effective working relationship through the Archipelago Management Board (AMB). The recent signing of the agreement provides the framework for the Haida and Parks Canada to begin to work together on planning and operations in earnest.

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

The first planning product of the AMB is the draft *Purpose & Objectives Statement*, presented in this newsletter for public comment. It sets the stage for the planning process by describing Gwaii Haanas and objectives for protection.

The next step in the planning process is the preparation of a draft *Strategic Management Plan*. After another round of public review, this will be the overview document that guides the AMB in all planning, management and operations in Gwaii Haanas.

There will be three main parts to the Strategic Management Plan. A *Vision Statement* will describe what Gwaii Haanas will be like in the future, providing a target for the AMB to work towards. *Guiding Principles* will establish broad strategic directions for management, providing a set of reference points or "rules" to guide decision-making. Also, *Management Strategies* will be described, based on a review of management issues, such as those identified in this newsletter.

It is important to note that the details of how specific issues will be

addressed is not a part of this stage of planning. In the longer term, the AMB will prepare a draft *Business Plan*, with management prescriptions and priorities that are based on the vision and principles established in the Strategic Management Plan.

Planning will focus on terrestrial environments, and will not deal with the surrounding marine area until formal agreements and boundaries are established. The ecological relationships between land and sea are recognized however, and will be reflected in management initiatives.



## THE PLANNING PROGRAM



(The AMB will obtain public input on aspects of the Business Plan.)

## WHY WE NEED A STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

The cooperative arrangement between Canada and the Haida represents a new approach to protected area management. Before the AMB proceeds to more detailed levels of planning, it will consult with the public to develop a shared *vision* and a set of *guiding principles*.

A Strategic Management Plan is needed to:

- establish the core values and a shared vision for management of Gwaii Haanas;

- establish general agreement about the kinds and levels of use for Gwaii Haanas;
- promote productive partnerships and closer cooperation and consultation between user groups;
- guide the implementation of management strategies that will achieve the vision.

The AMB would like to focus public input on these four topics over the next six months.



## AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Archipelago Management Board invites the public to participate in developing the management plan for Gwaii Haanas. Your ideas and suggestions could contribute to prudent stewardship of Gwaii Haanas. The AMB would like to hear your ideas about the future of Gwaii Haanas and the issues of management planning. In particular, your thoughts on the following points would be appreciated:

- **PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES**  
The draft Purpose & Objectives Statement reflects the mutual commitment for protection and use, and provides a framework for discussion.
- **MANAGEMENT ISSUES**  
The initial description presented on page 16 is an attempt to identify the issues. Your thoughts and contributions would be appreciated.
- **VISION STATEMENT**  
The Strategic Management Plan will eventually include a clear and concise Vision Statement. It will provide a picture of the cultural,

ecological and wilderness values that should be found in Gwaii Haanas in the future, and sets a target to aim for. We would like you to provide a short description of your own vision of Gwaii Haanas in the next century.

- **ON-GOING PARTICIPATION**  
As the AMB proceeds with planning in the years ahead, there will be additional newsletters and on-going opportunities for public comment. Please let us know if you would like to be placed on our mailing list.

The planning team will be able to make the best use of your comments if they are received before October 15, 1993. Please send them to:

Archipelago Management Board  
PO Box 909  
Queen Charlotte City, BC  
V0T 1S0

PHONE: (604) 559-8818

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# PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES STATEMENT

## PREAMBLE

The approach to the management of the Archipelago is guided by the Gwaii Haanas Agreement between the Council of the Haida Nation and the Government of Canada. The provisions of this agreement deal with the intersecting land and non-tidal waters designated by the Haida Nation as the "Gwaii Haanas Haida Heritage Site" and designated by Canada as the "Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve."

The Gwaii Haanas Agreement provides a unique opportunity for the two parties to share in the planning, management and operation of the Archipelago, while respecting both party's designations and interests. The mechanism for the shared participation will be the "Archipelago Management Board," which provides equal representation from both parties. The two parties will arrive at decisions concerning the planning, management and operation of the Archipelago by consensus.

In this document we refer to these lands and waters as "the Gwaii Haanas Archipelago," or simply the "Archipelago." For simplicity, the area known variously as the "Queen Charlotte Islands" and as "Haida Gwaii" is referred to as "the Islands." In some instances, gazetted names are used rather than the Haida names for easier reference to maps generally available to the public.

## GWAII HAANAS ARCHIPELAGO

One of the world's great natural and cultural phenomena will be safeguarded through long-term protection. By virtue of the Archipelago being an intact life source, Haida cultural and traditional activities will continue. At the same time, visitors will be provided with outstanding opportunities for understanding and enjoyment. Through cooperation and innovative management, a balance between protection and use can be achieved.

## DESCRIPTION

The Gwaii Haanas Archipelago is located in the southern part of the Islands, about 640 kilometres north of Vancouver and 100 kilometres west of the British Columbia mainland. The Archipelago is a relatively intact ecological system of 138 islands. It extends about 90 kilometres from north to south and includes 1,470 square kilometres of land—about 15 percent of the total area of the Islands. The rugged San Christoval mountains, with peaks of more than 1,100 metres, are dominant features, particularly in the Archipelago's north end. There are over 1,600 kilometres of shoreline within the Archipelago.

The marine component of the Archipelago encompasses about 3,400 square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean and Hecate Strait. Conservation and protection of the marine environment is the primary goal. Haida use of the marine environment, and commercial and sport fisheries will continue, all subject to scientific evaluation for sustainability.



Gwaii Haanas is a magnificent cultural and natural heritage that should be protected and sustained through sound management and planning. As the consumption of natural resources continues to change the global landscape, Gwaii Haanas will become increasingly important as a scientific benchmark, and as a source of understanding of our relationship with nature.



The major villages in the Islands include Masset, Old Massett, Port Clements, Queen Charlotte City, Skidegate, and Sandspit. The total population of the Islands is about 6,000, the majority of which lives on Graham Island (Aau Gwaii).

The Islands are accessible from the mainland by ferry and air from Prince Rupert, and by air from Vancouver. Access to the Archipelago is by air or water. While there are public wharfage facilities in Skidegate Inlet, the most convenient small boat departure point is at Cumshewa Inlet, the closest location accessible by road. Except for abandoned logging roads on Lyell Island, there are no roads within the Archipelago.

In the Archipelago, historic and archaeological remains indicate that the original inhabitants lived in large numbers and in harmony with the surrounding land and water. Among the hundreds of known Haida sites are the remains of the village of Ninstints on Sgan Gwaii (Anthony Is.) which, with the agreement of the Haida, was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

## **NATURAL & CULTURAL FEATURES OF THE ARCHIPELAGO**

### **TERRESTRIAL AREA**

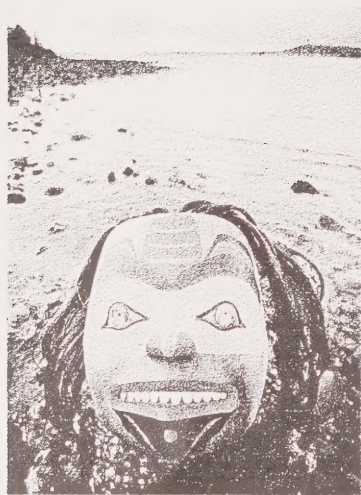
The east coast is in the rain shadow of the San Christoval mountains, and receives about the same amount of precipitation as Vancouver (128 cm per year at Sandspit); the west coast receives several times that amount (422 cm at Tasu). Summers are relatively cool with little precipitation, and winters are mild and wet with frequent and severe storms. The mean January temperature at Sandspit is two degrees Celsius; July is 14 degrees. The Cape St. James area at the southern extremity of the Islands experiences some of the highest average annual wind speeds in North America. Maximum gusts of 197 km/h have been recorded.

The Archipelago has natural features of the Pacific coast mountains, including deep fjords and rugged mountains. The coastal forest, sub-alpine tundra and salmon spawning streams are also well represented.

The true splendour of the Archipelago derives from its combination of land and marine environments and the abundance and diversity of life. Against the backdrop of mountains, streams spill over verdant slopes and cliffs to feed more than 40 freshwater lakes. One of the finest old-growth temperate rainforests left on the Pacific coast remains relatively intact. Some of the world's largest Sitka spruce, western hemlock, and red cedar grow in watersheds flanking more than 50 salmon-spawning streams.

Below the forest canopy, many kinds of mosses and liverworts thrive in the moist environment. "Bonsai bogs" or muskeg, with their stunted lodgepole pines and blankets of sphagnum moss, are common on the western side of the Archipelago. Sub-alpine meadows and alpine tundra are easily reached in the Archipelago, offering spectacular views of the open Pacific Ocean and the Hecate Strait.

The Islands are situated on the Pacific Flyway and millions of birds stop during their spring and autumn migrations. In all, over 100 bird



The name of Gwaii Haanas has been formalized by the Haida House of Assembly to designate The Haida Heritage Site. The Government of Canada formally adopted this name when The House of Commons, with all parties support, amended The National Parks Act. The "Gwaii" element means islands and the "Haanas" means beautiful.



species can be seen. The Archipelago has one of the world's largest concentrations of Peale's peregrine falcons and highest densities of bald eagles.

Seabirds nest in abundance in the Archipelago because of the diversity and availability of suitable habitats, the abundance of food in nearby off-shore waters, the lack of disturbance during nesting periods, and, until recently, the absence of introduced species of predators. Some 750,000 seabirds nest there.

The area includes the only confirmed nesting site for horned puffins in Canada, rare nesting sites for common murrelets, and one of the largest rhinoceros auklet colonies on the west coast. The Archipelago is home to 122,000 pairs of ancient murrelets (nearly 30 per cent of the world population) and 136,000 pairs of Cassin's auklets (about ten percent of the world population). About 67,000 pairs of storm petrels, 16,000 pairs of rhinoceros auklets, and nearly 1,000 pairs of tufted puffins also nest in the area. Altogether, the twelve species of seabirds nesting on the Islands are of global significance and for the visitor they provide opportunities for wildlife viewing.

The Islands are separated from the continental land mass by 100 kilometres of ocean. Scientists believe that portions of the Islands escaped glaciation during the last ice age, about 10,000 years ago. These small lowland areas provided refuge for plants and other life, enabling them to survive and evolve. Including fish and insects, at least 39 endemic species or subspecies of plants and animals are present.

Among the unique plants are four species of moss, one liverwort, and six species of flowering plants. Also present are many "disjunct" plant species, whose nearest relatives occur thousands of kilometres away. For example, one species of moss on the Islands is only found elsewhere in the Himalayas and in Scotland.

The Islands have seven unique subspecies of mammals. Of these, the largest is the black bear. Dawson caribou existed on the Islands until the turn of the century, when they became extinct. Important from an evolutionary perspective are the unique forms of deer mice—a different kind of deer mouse can be found on almost every island.

The Islands are also home to three endemic subspecies of birds, including a small saw-whet owl and unique forms of Steller's jay and hairy woodpecker.

At least 15 subspecies of stickleback fish have been discovered, each of which varies from lake to lake and adapts its body shape, colouration, and size in response to different environmental conditions. Even the insects have evolved independently—at least three species of beetles are found in these Islands but nowhere else on earth.

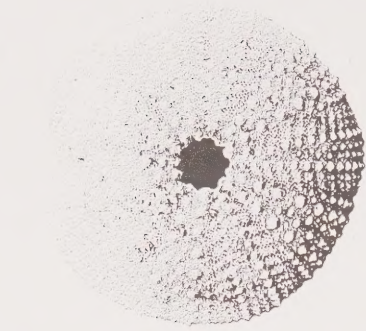
A wide variety of plant and animal species have been introduced to the area, threatening to compromise the integrity of the Islands' native flora and fauna. Several species of mammals have been introduced, including the Sitka black-tail deer, raccoon, beaver, squirrel and three kinds of rats. These have a major adverse impact on ecosystems, especially browsing by deer and predation on sea-bird colonies by rats and raccoons.



### GWAIL HAANAS ...

- protects a representative area of the west coast rainforest, mountain and marine environment.
- has a rich cultural heritage born of the land and sea.
- represents a "remote islands ecology" with scientifically significant examples of endemic and disjunct species.
- offers a sense of wilderness and solitude.
- is a place for people to experience the environment on its own terms.
- offers a source of spiritual inspiration and an appreciation of the relationship of human beings to the natural world.





### MARINE AREA

The Archipelago is surrounded by two distinct marine environments. The rugged west coast is sculpted by the unrestrained power of the Pacific Ocean. Within a few kilometres of shore, the ocean reaches depths exceeding 2,000 metres. The west coast is also the most earthquake active zone in North America. The Queen Charlotte Fault, which runs off-shore, marks the boundary between the Continental and the Pacific tectonic plates.

In contrast, the east coast of the Archipelago is relatively sheltered from the open ocean and is dotted with islands. The sea abounds with marine life and is home to prolific and diverse coastal communities. Salmon, herring, halibut, and rockfish are abundant, as are invertebrates such as mussels, crabs, barnacles, starfish, sea urchins and octopi.

This abundance and diversity is most visible in the waters of "Qeet" (also called Dolomite, or Burnaby, Narrows). The tide flows back and forth through a 50-metre wide channel, providing a nearly constant flow of nutrient-rich water. Few, if any, intertidal areas contain the concentration of living organisms found here.

Grey whales migrate through the marine area each spring and autumn as they move between their summer feeding grounds in the Bering Sea and winter calving lagoons in Mexico. Ten other species of whales—including killer, humpback, beaked, sperm, sei, finback, and minke—inhabit these waters, as well as porpoise and dolphin.

Steller sea lion haul-outs are located in the Archipelago, including one of the largest breeding colonies on the Canadian west coast. The sea otter, once hunted out of existence on the Islands, has recently been sighted on the west coast of the Archipelago.

### CULTURAL HERITAGE

#### HAIDA CULTURE

People born of Haida Gwaii, the Haidas trace their lineages to the original mothers of Gwaii Haanas. Oral history tells of two great floods and the arrival of the first tree.

Resource harvesting activities and the inherent interaction with the land and the sea constitute a significant aspect of Haida culture. The availability and abundance of food from the sea allows Haida culture to flourish, with its elaborate social, religious and economic structure.

The Haida "art form" evolved through a close interaction with the natural world. Today, even common household utensils used in the old days are held in high esteem as art objects. Contemporary Haida art is displayed in galleries and fine buildings around the world, while Haida jewellery continues to be timelessly fashionable. Haida building technology has secured its place in the world of architecture, and Haida marine engineering skills are exemplified by their ocean-going canoes. The Archipelago continues to be a source of spiritual, cultural and economic activity to the Haida people. Potlatches, feasts and ceremonies remain a necessary part of Haida life.





## **ARCHAEOLOGY**

More than 500 Haida archaeological and historical sites have been documented in the Archipelago, including villages, smaller habitation sites, rock shelters, caves, and burial sites. Recent archaeological studies suggest that human occupation of the Islands has occurred for at least 10,000 years. Due to fluctuating sea levels before and after periods of glaciation, absolute dating has not been determined and would be difficult at best.

## **HISTORIC INDUSTRIAL USE**

Large-scale resource extraction began with harvesting of sea otters and fur seals in the late 1700s.

Copper mining was attempted in Lockeport, however, the only commercially viable enterprise was the Japanese-operated Ikeda Mines, which produced copper intermittently from 1907 to 1920. In the 1960s, an iron ore mine operated briefly in Harriet Harbour and Ikeda Cove.

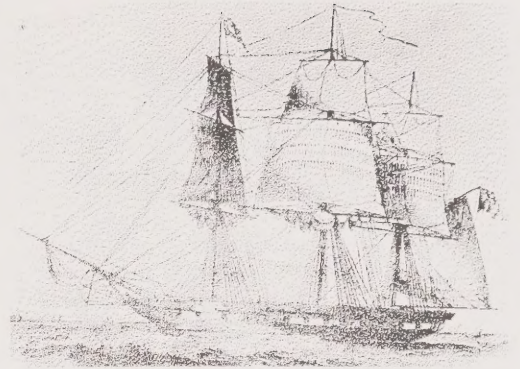
The whaling station at Rose Harbour operated with varying success from 1910 to 1942, when whale populations were depleted.

Logging started after the First World War, mostly on Lyell and Huxley Islands, and continues to this day to the north of the Archipelago at an accelerated rate. Intensive clear-cut logging of Lyell Island ended with the agreement to protect the Archipelago in 1987.

Fish processing began on a commercial scale after World War I. Salmon canneries were established at Lockeport and Jedway, and Japanese herring and salmon salteries were opened at Jedway Bay, Huston Inlet and Rose Inlet. These plants were shut down by the early 1940s, but commercial fishing continues to this day.

Temporary settlements were built around industrial areas during the 1906–1930s period. After 1930, temporary industrial camps were used.

Today, there is evidence of this industrial period at the whaling station at Rose Harbour, and at Anna Inlet, Ikeda Cove and Jedway. Historic trails, shipwrecks and the remains of old logging and mining operations are found at a number of locations in the Archipelago.



## **VISITOR USE, FACILITIES & SERVICES**

### **VISITOR USE**

Guests from around the world are drawn by the Archipelago's natural and cultural values. Recreational activities include sailing, cruising, kayaking, scuba diving, fishing, nature observation and interpretation, bird watching and hiking. Of the more than 20,000 visitor nights now spent in the Archipelago each year, numbers are almost equally divided between visitors traveling with tours and visitors traveling independently. Many of the area's tour operators assist in fostering a strong sense of environmental stewardship by providing a focus on heritage education. The challenge in managing the Archipelago lies in balancing the demands for use with the priority for protecting, preserving and conserving heritage resources.



**FACILITIES & SERVICES**

Other than a few mooring buoys, freshwater stations and navigation aids, there are limited visitor facilities and services within the Archipelago. Base camps, operated by the Haida Gwaii Watchmen, have been established at three sites of cultural and natural significance. The priorities in providing future facilities and services will be public safety and prevention of damage that may result from increased human traffic.

A management plan will be developed by the Archipelago Management Board, in consultation with the public. It will guide future development in the Archipelago such as moorings, trails, camping areas and basic shelter. However, the majority of facilities will be located outside the Archipelago's boundaries in local communities. A boat launch and information facility will be constructed in Cumshewa Inlet to the north of Louise Island—the likely point of departure for many visitors travelling by water to the Archipelago.





## PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

### PURPOSE

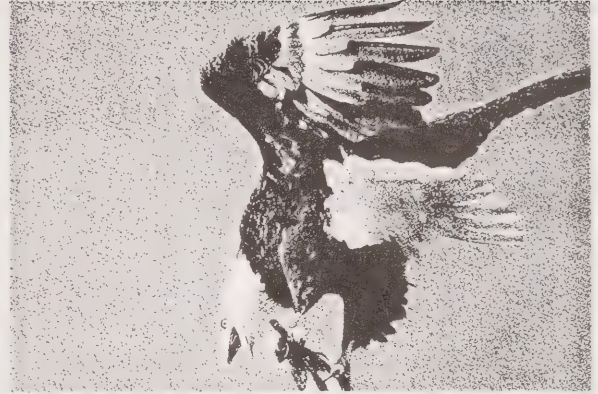
The Archipelago contains the essence of the rugged beauty and ecological character of the Pacific coast. The Haida's rich legacy is of international significance.

The Heritage Site designation by the Haida Nation was made in view of the industrial exploitation north of Gwaii Haanas. The Haida recognize that the Archipelago's natural and cultural elements are inseparably intertwined, and that protection of the Archipelago is essential to sustaining Haida culture. The Haida Nation also recognizes the values of Gwaii Haanas to the world.

The fundamental goal of Canada's national parks system is to protect and conserve representative examples of 39 terrestrial and 29 marine natural regions within Canada. The addition of Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve to the system complements Pacific Rim National Park Reserve's representation of the Pacific Coast Mountains Natural Region. A total of 23 of the 39 terrestrial natural regions are now represented.

Through cooperative planning and management, the interests of both parties can be accommodated, ensuring the protection for all time of:

- largely intact ecosystems which span the terrestrial and marine areas;
- a heartland of Haida culture, with evidence of habitation by a people with an advanced social and economic structure, living in harmony with the natural environment for thousands of years, and where living Haida culture and traditional activities can continue in a natural setting;
- a natural area of significance that provides excellent representation of the terrestrial Pacific Coast Mountains Natural Region;
- plants and animals important to science for the study of adaptation and evolution; and,
- an outstanding natural and cultural heritage area where public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment are permitted in a manner that leaves the area unimpaired for this and future generations.





## OBJECTIVES

### TERRESTRIAL AREA



The terrestrial portion of the Archipelago is an internationally significant natural area. The magnificent island setting is characterized by a rugged coastline, the San Christoval mountains, one of the finest old growth temperate rainforests on the west coast of North America, and abundant wildlife. The area contains a variety of rare and endemic plants and animals, including fish and insects, some of which exist nowhere else in the world.

The Haida and Canada will work jointly:

- to protect for all time the natural heritage representative of the Pacific Coast Mountains Natural Region, including diverse ecological systems and processes ranging from old growth coastal rain forests to the alpine meadows of the San Christovals;
- to preserve and develop in-depth understanding of the Archipelago's unique genetic values, which may include more than 40 endemic and disjunct species or subspecies of plants and animals;
- to control introduced species in the Archipelago in order to minimize their impact on the indigenous species and their habitats;
- to protect the internationally significant natural aspects of the Archipelago, including high concentrations of bald eagles and Peale's peregrine falcons, seabird nesting colonies, and an extraordinary diversity of mosses, liverworts and other plants;
- to manage visitors and minimize their impacts on the Archipelago's environment in order to ensure the maintenance of ecological integrity; and,
- to allow areas modified by resource extraction to recover to as natural a state as possible, and to assist the process with rehabilitation where necessary.

This natural heritage is protected and preserved to ensure the maintenance of its ecosystems in perpetuity, to ensure the continuity of Haida culture, and to provide a bench-mark for scientific and human understanding.

### MARINE AREA

The marine environment of the Archipelago echoes the diversity and abundance of life on the adjacent islands. The marine habitats range from salt marshes, rocky shores and kelp forests to the deep pelagic and benthic realms. The marine environment encompasses a section of the Queen Charlotte Fault system. Land and sea are ecologically inseparable, and marine and terrestrial life forms rely on the protection of both environments for their survival.



Shared objectives for the marine area are:

- to protect and conserve for all time the natural heritage representative of the east and west coasts of the Archipelago marine regions, including the diverse marine habitats and life processes found in intertidal areas, shallow to deep pelagic waters, and on the ocean floor;
- to protect the globally significant marine flora and fauna (and their habitat) of the Archipelago, including high concentrations of seabirds and Steller sea lions;
- to recognize and ensure continuation of the integral relationship between the marine environment and the Haida; and,
- to cooperatively protect, conserve and manage the marine environment of the Archipelago, while allowing certain sustainable fisheries to continue.

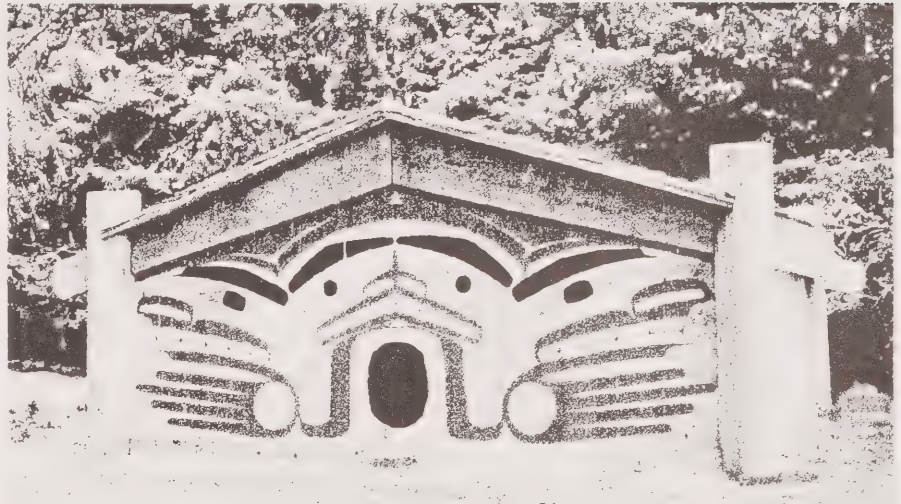
This heritage is protected so as to provide for the conservation and sustainable use of the Archipelago's marine resources by present and future generations. The well-being of the marine ecosystem will take precedence over all other types of use. Canada and the Haida intend to pursue future arrangements to protect the marine environment.

#### HAIDA HERITAGE

While many perceive the Archipelago as wilderness, people lived there for thousands of years. Within the Archipelago is the legacy of how the Haida people have lived and prospered in harmony with the environment. Gwaii Haanas remains a source of inspiration and has the necessary elements to sustain the Haida culture. Today we can see how people are able to live and prosper in harmony with the environment.

Shared objectives relating to Haida cultural heritage are:

- to recognize the integral relationship of Haida culture with the natural world and to contribute to the continuity and enhancement of that culture;
- to protect the evidence of the cultural heritage of the Haida as exemplified by the World Heritage Site at Sgan Gwaii (Ninstints), and the hundreds of other Haida archaeological and historic sites in the Archipelago; and,
- to provide opportunities for guests to understand and appreciate the historical relationship of the Haida people with the natural environment, and the Haida ideals for living on the earth.



The Haida Gwaii Watchmen provide a unique experience which captures and spreads the spirit of Gwaii Haanas. The program consists of a team of Haidas who serve as guardians and hosts at special places. In addition to protecting the sites through their presence, the Watchmen give visitors a first hand introduction to Haida culture and to the stories associated with the sites.



**POST-CONTACT HERITAGE**

Objectives relating to the historical and industrial era are:

- to manage historical and industrial era sites in accordance with sound cultural heritage management principles and practices;
- to preserve and present the evidence of post-contact history in the area;
- to encourage recovery of sites adversely and significantly impacted by industrial activities; and,
- to consider historic value in all actions affecting the management, recovery and environmental quality of historical and industrial era sites.

**APPRECIATION, UNDERSTANDING & ENJOYMENT**

The Archipelago offers outstanding opportunities for wilderness recreation and education, ranging from hiking through coastal rainforests and the alpine meadows of the San Christovals, to boating and diving among islands and bays, to experiencing Sgan Gwaii (Ninstints) and other Haida cultural sites.

Objectives for appreciation, understanding and enjoyment are:

- to harmonize visitor use of the Archipelago with Haida cultural activities;
- to provide a range of visitor facilities for wilderness opportunities in a manner that does not impair natural and cultural values;
- to ensure the safe and appropriate use of the area by marine-based visitors, including the commercial fishing industry;
- to provide heritage interpretation and broader environmental education messages that focus on the protected area's contribution to maintaining ecological integrity, and to promote a philosophy of environmental stewardship;
- to provide innovative Archipelago-related environmental education and heritage interpretation programs to those who may not be able to visit the Archipelago itself; and,
- to provide, where appropriate, visitor services, administration and maintenance facilities outside the boundaries of the Archipelago in a manner that enhances local participation and benefits.

**PARTNERSHIP & REGIONAL INTEGRATION**

The cooperation, support and involvement of others is essential to achieving the Archipelago's purpose and objectives. Partnership programs must be developed with residents of the Islands, environmental organizations, the scientific community, government agencies and others.

The Canada-British Columbia South Moresby Agreement provides for a Queen Charlotte Islands Regional Economic Development Initiative to complement the development and operation of the Gwaii Haanas area. The Gwaii Haanas Archipelago is to be a catalyst for appropriate tourism, sustainable development and judicious environmental management throughout the Islands.

Objectives for partnership and regional integration are:

- to ensure that the planning and implementation of an economic development strategy for the Islands is complementary to the objectives of the Archipelago and the area's unique natural and cultural character;
- to maintain a close liaison with local and regional communities to ensure their continued involvement in the Archipelago;
- to promote and provide opportunities for local communities to derive social and economic benefits from the operation of the Archipelago;
- to ensure that the Archipelago is appreciated and is relevant to the residents of the Islands; and,
- to develop partnerships and cooperative strategies for enhancing scientific research, resource management, environmental education and tourism within the region in a manner compatible with the purpose and objectives for the Archipelago.







## NEW UNDERSTANDINGS

*Over the past year, research projects in Gwaii Haanas have focussed on increasing our understanding of the natural and cultural heritage of Gwaii Haanas. Information is being prepared to support planning, management and operations in the years to come. Special sites have been cared for. Projects are conceived and implemented by the management board. Most are carried out in cooperation with other agencies.*

### BIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH

Scientists are working to inventory, classify and map the landforms, soil, vegetation, wildlife and water resources of Gwaii Haanas. The processes that shape ecosystems are being described and analyzed. A computer geographic information system (GIS) will integrate biophysical databases with base maps to provide a vital management tool.



### EYELL ISLAND REHABILITATION

Logging roads on Athli Gwaii have been deactivated and hillside drainages returned to their original patterns. Some areas left bare from logging have been planted to stabilize hillsides against erosion or scarified to enhance growth of ground cover. The logging camp at Powrivo Bay was taken apart and hazardous wastes are being removed.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

The hundreds of archaeological sites throughout Gwaii Haanas are a testament to the extent of Haida heritage. Field studies and mapping projects are assembling information for protection, management and interpretation.

### INTERTIDAL STUDIES

Dolomite Narrows, by the old village site of Qeet on Burnaby Island, is a rich intertidal ecosystem, and attracts a large number of visitors. The

diversity and abundance of species in the intertidal and sub-tidal zones are being examined and mapped in detail. The linkages between land and sea and the impacts of disturbances are being analyzed.

### VILLAGE SITE CONSERVATION

The old Haida villages of Skedans and Tanu are attracting growing numbers of visitors. Detailed site surveys have been completed, and conservation plans prepared with the approval of the villages' Hereditary Chiefs. Trails are being cleaned up and re-routed to protect village remains and to provide for better, safer viewing by visitors.

### MARINE MAMMALS

The Orcas ("killer whales") of Gwaii Haanas have been photographed and catalogued and had their vocalizations recorded for several years. Historical records from whaling stations have

been analyzed and combined with field research results to build a picture of seasonal abundance and distribution of other cetaceans. Seal and sea-lion haulouts and rookeries on both coasts of Gwaii Haanas are being surveyed to measure population size and trends. This information provides the basis for a marine mammal inventory, which will be combined with the other parts of the biophysical database.

### EVOLUTION & THE ICE AGE

A striking number of island plants, mammals, birds and fish are distinct from those on the mainland coast. One research project is examining the mitochondrial DNA of selected birds and mammals and comparing it with their mainland relatives. The results may determine whether the distinct kinds of life on the islands are the product of a glacial "refugium," or of rapid evolution since the last ice age.

### SEABIRD STUDIES

The Marbled Murrelet is a seabird that nests in forests and is officially listed as a threatened species, and is being studied throughout its coast forest range. In Gwaii Haanas, "MaMus" have been selectively surveyed in eastern coastal and off-shore waters to find out about their numbers and ocean feeding habitat. Colonies of another forest-nesting seabird, the Ancient Murrelet, are being studied to learn about life cycles and the effects of predation by introduced species.



### **GANDL K'IN**

Hotsprings Island in Juan Perez Sound is known to biologists for more than its rejuvenating baths. Studies of unique lichens, mosses and liverworts that grow in the island's thermal meadows are in progress in support of a plan for protection. And the only known rearing site of a rare bat—the Keen's Myotis—has been studied in a small, thermally heated cave on the island.

### **ETHNOGRAPHY**

Haida oral history, language, stories and songs are being recorded and documented in Skidegate and Old Massett. A comprehensive bibliography of literary references to the villages and peoples of Gwaii Haanas has been prepared. Haida place names are being mapped and will be included in the information database.

### **GROUNDWORK**

At Hlkyaah in Windy Bay, a longhouse and water well were built for the Haida Gwaii Watchmen. The trail to the giant Sitka spruce tree has been cleared and a protective platform built. Mooring buoys have been installed at Skedans, Tanu, Windy Bay and Gandl K'in for the Watchmen.

### **SURVEYS**

Visitors to Gwaii Haanas express a clear interest in experiencing wilderness and learning about Haida culture. While they're highly satisfied with their visit to Gwaii Haanas, many are concerned that the area should not be allowed to deteriorate through over-use. Other surveys are determining the expectations and concerns of commercial tour operators, and gauging the effect of spending activity associated with Gwaii Haanas on the local economy.



### **VISITOR STATISTICS**

- According to registration data, 22,000 people stayed for 22,000 visitor nights in Gwaii Haanas in 1992.
- One-half of the visitors to Gwaii Haanas are from British Columbia. The number of international visitors is increasing, and seems likely to continue to grow in the future.
- Seventy-two percent of visitors traveled with organized tours and 28 percent traveled independently, based on the 1992 registration data.
- Many visitors to Gwaii Haanas are on extended vacations, averaging close to 30 days away from home. They spend an average of 10.7 nights in Gwaii Haanas and 7.7 nights elsewhere on Haida Gwaii.
- In 1992, 42 commercial operators provided services ranging from complete package tours to visitor drop-off and pick-up and supply transport.

### **REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR VISITORS & COMMERCIAL TOUR OPERATORS**

A registration system for visitors and commercial operators was established in 1990. The primary purpose was to gather statistics on visitor use, but the system was designed to do two other things as well. With public safety in mind, it obtains information that would help locate visitors in case of an emergency. With environmental protection in mind, it is also used to reinforce visitors' awareness of being a guest in a special place.

The AMB would like to thank all visitors and commercial operators for complying with the registration system, particularly those who have taken the extra time to provide us with feedback from their trip logs and "passports."



# GWAII HAANAS MANAGEMENT ISSUES



In the past, management planning has often become bogged down at the outset in attempting to find solutions to specific issues and problems, usually in the absence of consensus on priorities and long-term goals.

The approach that the AMB is taking is to concentrate on developing the *framework* for decision-making before grappling with the resolution of particular management issues. By establishing a Vision Statement and a set of Guiding Principles at the outset, the AMB will then be able to address the issues that affect the cultural, ecological and wilderness values of Gwaii Haanas within the context of working towards a common future vision.

To the extent that it will contribute to the development of the planning framework, the AMB is seeking to identify trends and issues that affect the cultural, ecological and wilderness values of Gwaii Haanas. These are described below in general terms.

Bearing in mind that the AMB only intends to identify the issues at this time and will develop detailed management prescriptions later, we ask you to comment on the following list and to tell us your priorities.

## LOCAL ISSUES

1. Obtaining economic benefit from Gwaii Haanas and maintaining the Islands' lifestyle are significant local issues.
2. Islands residents want a say in the future of Haida Gwaii—of which Gwaii Haanas is an important part—and providing meaningful input is a major local issue.

## COMMUNICATION ISSUES

3. The AMB recognizes that the public has information and knowledge that can be useful to planning and management of the area. The challenge is to create workable opportunities for the public to communicate their ideas to the board.

## MANAGEMENT

4. The remoteness of Gwaii Haanas presents challenges to effective management.
5. Scientific research and monitoring programs are required in order to understand environmental processes, improve protection methods, and respond to potential threats.
6. The state of the economy creates pressures to find innovative ways to increase revenues and decrease expenditures. Partnerships, cooperation and volunteer programs will play an increasingly important role.
7. The public is concerned with ecological integrity and aesthetics associated with resource extraction industries adjacent to the Gwaii Haanas boundary.

8. Many international visitors discover Gwaii Haanas through mass-market publications, which often convey false expectations and misunderstanding of the skills and challenges of wilderness travel.
9. Visitors to Gwaii Haanas need to have a safe and rewarding experience of the area without compromising the integrity of ecosystems.
10. Educational programs that add to visitors' experiences and lessen the need for direct management controls are required.

## ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

11. Introduced species are changing ecological processes and impacting native flora and fauna.
12. Environmentally and culturally significant areas are sensitive and susceptible to being damaged.
13. Global environmental changes and issues affect the integrity of local ecosystems.
14. Identifying appropriate indicators of sustainable ecosystems and monitoring changes and impacts on species and ecological processes presents a management challenge.

## VISITOR TRENDS

15. The number of visitors to Gwaii Haanas is expected to rise as adventure travel and marine tourism become more popular. Unrestricted tourism in Gwaii Haanas would jeopardize the integrity of the environment and the quality of the wilderness experience.
16. The number of expedition cruises and high speed boaters traveling to the area has grown in recent years, resulting in complaints and conflicts between user groups.

# GWAII HAANAS AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN:** THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, represented by the Minister of the Environment

**AND:** THE COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION, for and on behalf of the Haida Nation and represented by the Vice President of the Council

Respecting the land area known variously as Gwaii Haanas and South Moresby, and generally referred to herein as "the Archipelago" (described in Section 2 below). The parties agree as follows:

## 1.0 REASONS FOR AGREEMENT

1.1 The parties maintain viewpoints regarding the Archipelago that converge with respect to objectives concerning the care, protection and enjoyment of the Archipelago, as set out in Section 1.2 below, and diverge with respect to sovereignty, title or ownership, as follows:

The Haida Nation sees the Archipelago as Haida Lands, subject to the collective and individual rights of the Haida citizens, the sovereignty of the Hereditary Chiefs, and jurisdiction of the Council of the Haida Nation. The Haida Nation owns these lands and waters by virtue of heredity, subject to the laws of the Constitution of the Haida Nation, and the legislative jurisdiction of the Haida House of Assembly.

The Haida have designated and managed the Archipelago as the "Gwaii Haanas Heritage Site", and thereby will maintain the area in its natural state while continuing their traditional way of life as

The Government of Canada views the Archipelago as Crown land, subject to certain private rights or interests, and subject to the sovereignty of her Majesty the Queen and the legislative jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada and the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia.

By virtue of the above, the Constitution Acts and, more particularly, by an agreement between the Governments of Canada and the Province of British Columbia dated July 12, 1988, the Crown in right of



they have for countless generations. In this way the Haida Nation will sustain the continuity of their culture while allowing for the enjoyment of visitors.

“Haida” means all people of Haida ancestry.

Canada is or will become the owner of the Archipelago and an area within the Archipelago Marine Park Area in order that these lands may constituted as a reserve for a National Park of Canada and a reserve for a National Marine Park of Canada respectively, to which the National Parks Act will apply. The Government of Canada intends to establish the park reserves pending the disposition of any Haida claim to any right, title or interest in or to the lands comprised therein.

For purposes of the Government of Canada’s authorization and implementation of this agreement “Haida” refers to the aboriginal people of Haida Gwaii with respect to whom sub-section 35 (1) of the Constitution Act, 1982 applies.

1.2 Both parties agree that long-term protective measures are essential to safeguard the Archipelago as one of the world’s great natural and cultural treasures, and that the highest standards of protection and preservation should be applied.

1.3 Notwithstanding and without prejudice to the aforesaid divergence of viewpoints, and in recognition of the convergence of viewpoints with respect to objectives for the care, protection and enjoyment of the Archipelago, the parties agree to constructively and co-operatively share in the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago, as described below.

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE

2.1 In this Agreement, the names “South Moresby” and “Gwaii Haanas” each refer generally to the same area or place, and the names “Haida Gwaii” and “Queen Charlotte Islands” each refer generally to the same area or place.

2.2 The Council of the Haida Nation has designated the lands and waters in the Gwaii Haanas area of Haida Gwaii as a Haida Heritage Site, as shown on the map in Appendix 1.

2.3 The Government of Canada intends to designate as a reserve for a National Park of Canada, pursuant to the National Parks Act, certain lands and non-tidal waters in the South Moresby area of the Queen Charlotte Islands, as shown on the map in Appendix 2, as and when they become available for this purpose.

2.4 For the general purpose of simplicity of expression in this Agreement, the lands and non-tidal waters shown on the map in Appendix 2 (being part of the lands shown on the map in Appendix 1) are referred to herein as the "the Archipelago". However, the provisions of this Agreement apply only to those parts of the Archipelago which have been designated as a Haida Heritage Site, as set out in Section 2.2, and also designated as a reserve for a National Park of Canada, pursuant to the intention set forth in Section 2.3.

2.5 For the general purpose of simplicity of expression in this Agreement, the area or place known variously as the "Queen Charlotte Islands" and as "Haida Gwaii" is each referred to herein as "the Islands".

2.6 The Government of Canada also intends to designate certain waters in the South Moresby area as a reserve for a National Marine Park within the area shown on the map in Appendix 3, and this latter area is referred to herein as "the Archipelago Marine Area".

2.7 "Council of the Haida Nation" means the governing body of the Haida Nation pursuant to the Constitution of the Haida Nation.

2.8 "Government of Canada" means the Executive Government of Canada, pursuant to the Constitution Act 1867.

### 3.0 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The parties agree that the Archipelago will be maintained and made use of so as to leave it unimpaired for the benefit, education and enjoyment of future generations. More specifically, all actions related to the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago will respect the protection and preservation of the environment, the Haida culture, and the maintenance of a benchmark for science and human understanding.

3.2 The parties agree that it is an objective to sustain the continuity of Haida culture and the parties agree to contribute to the attainment of this objective in the Archipelago by providing for the continuation of cultural activities and traditional renewable resource harvesting activities as set out in section 6.1 below.

3.3 The parties agree that there will be no extraction or harvesting by anyone of the resources of the lands and non-tidal waters of the Archipelago for or in support of commercial enterprise, except for the trapping of fur-bearing animals or the cutting by Haida of selected trees for ceremonial purposes or for artistic purposes intended for public display.

3.4 This Agreement provides for the establishment of a management board, as set out in Section 4 below, whereby both parties will share and co-operate in the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago respecting both parties' designations in the spirit expressed in this Agreement.



3.5 When the final boundaries of the proposed reserve for a National Marine Park within the Archipelago Marine Area are determined, the parties intend to enter into negotiations towards a new Agreement with respect to the planning, operation and management of the waters so affected.

#### 4.0 ARCHIPELAGO MANAGEMENT BOARD

4.1 Upon the execution of this Agreement, the parties will establish the Archipelago Management Board ("AMB"), the function of which will be to examine all initiatives and undertakings relating to the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago.

4.2 In a spirit of full and frank disclosure, both parties agree that they will refer any step, activity, or development that affects the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago to the AMB for deliberation as described in Section 5 below.

4.3 Matters to be addressed by the AMB will also include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) completion of a joint Purpose and Objectives Statement and Management Plan, in consultation with the public, and amendments thereto as deemed appropriate by both parties;
- (b) with respect to Haida cultural activities and traditional renewable resource harvesting activities set out in Section 6.1 below,
  - (i) the examination of their scope and extent,
  - (ii) any proposals for related construction, including any cutting of trees which are essential for this purpose and for which there is no reasonable alternative source of materials outside the Archipelago,
  - (iii) any regulations, guidelines or directives to be enacted, having particular regard for the conservation of natural resources and cultural features and the harmonization of visitor use of the Archipelago with these Haida activities;
- (c) identification of sites of special spiritual-cultural significance to the Haida within the Archipelago, including historic habitation and burial sites, with particular reference to those lands known variously as "Gandle k'in" and "Hotspring Island", and those lands known variously as "Skung Gwaii" and "Anthony Island", and management of these sites on a case by case basis taking into account the requirements for protection of natural resources and cultural features, for Haida cultural activities and traditional renewable resource harvesting activities set out in Section 6.1, and for visitor understanding and enjoyment;
- (d) communications with other departments and agencies of the parties which conduct or authorize activities affecting the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago;

- (e) guidelines, including the application thereof on a case by case basis, for the care, protection and enjoyment of the Archipelago concerning, among other things,
  - (i) permits or licences for commercial tour operations, research or other activities;
  - (ii) access and use by fishermen, pursuant to sub-section 7.2 below.
- (f) annual work plans setting out the work to be done and how it is to be accomplished, including staffing requirements, budgets and expenditures of both parties pertaining to the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago;
- (g) formulation of procedures in advance for dealing with possible emergencies concerning public safety and security and threats to the natural resources and cultural features of the Archipelago, recognizing that nothing in this Agreement shall preclude either party from taking appropriate action in the case of an emergency;
- (h) strategies to assist Haida individuals and organizations to take advantage of the full range of economic and employment opportunities associated with the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago, taking into account the undertakings of the parties, set out in Appendix 4; and
- (i) procedures for the conduct of the business of the AMB, consistent with this Agreement.

4.4 The AMB will initially be comprised of two (2) representatives of the Government of Canada and two (2) representatives of the Council of the Haida Nation, totalling four (4) members; the total number of members may be increased or decreased by mutual agreement between the parties, provided that equal representation is maintained.

4.5 Each party will designate one of its AMB members as a co-chairperson, both of whom will be jointly in charge of calling and conducting meetings, and of authenticating minutes. The co-chairpersons may, however, agree that the responsibilities of the chair will alternate between the co-chairpersons.

4.6 Both parties may designate alternate members to the AMB as required, who may fully participate in meetings when a regular member is absent; and both parties may replace regular AMB members from time to time, on notice to the other party.

4.7 Both parties will inform the AMB of the existence and availability of data, studies, and other documents that pertain to the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago, and will provide copies on request and within a reasonable time.



## 5.0 CONSENSUS

5.1 Deliberations of the AMB on any particular proposal or initiative will strive in a constructive and co-operative manner to achieve a consensus decision of the members, which will be deemed recommendations both to the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation, by way of referral to their designated representatives, agencies or departments, as deemed appropriate by each party.

5.2 In the event of a consensus decision of AMB members on a matter, any referrals and any steps required to authorize implementation of the decision will be noted at that time in the minutes. During the course of this referral process, the AMB will, if required by either party, discuss the matter further. Upon the conclusion of the referral process, and if there is no objection by either party, the decision will be deemed to have been approved and thereby free and clear to be effected by the appropriate party(ies).

5.3 In the event of a clear and final disagreement of AMB members on a matter, related decisions and any actions arising will be held in abeyance, and will be referred to the Council of the Haida Nation and to the Government of Canada to attempt to reach agreement on the matter in good faith. The parties may request the assistance of an agreed neutral third party(ies) in attempting to reach an agreement.

5.4 Matters held in abeyance under Section 5.3 will be set aside from the normal business of the AMB until such time as the members receive instructions from the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation regarding their understanding on the matter.

5.5 Matters set aside under Section 5.4 will not reduce or fetter the obligation and ability of the AMB to continue to deliberate in good faith and to strive to achieve consensus decisions on other proposals and initiatives in accordance with Section 5.0.

## 6.0 HAIDA CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND TRADITIONAL RESOURCE HARVESTING ACTIVITIES ON THE LANDS AND NON-TIDAL WATERS

6.1 The following Haida cultural activities and sustainable, traditional renewable resource harvesting activities will continue in the Archipelago having regard for the purposes and objectives of this Agreement set out in Section 3.1 and 3.2 and subject to Section 3.3 above:

- (i) travelling into and within the Archipelago;
- (ii) gathering of traditional Haida foods;
- (iii) gathering of plants used for medicinal or ceremonial purposes;
- (iv) cutting of selected trees for ceremonial or artistic purposes;
- (v) hunting of land mammals and trapping of fur-bearing animals;
- (vi) fishing for freshwater and anadromous fish
- (vii) conducting, teaching or demonstrating ceremonies of traditional, spiritual or religious significance;
- (viii) seeking cultural and spiritual inspiration;
- (ix) use of shelter and facilities essential to the pursuit of the above activities.

## 7.0 ACCESS

7.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent authorized representatives of the Government of Canada, the Council of the Haida Nation and the AMB from having free access to and within the Archipelago to carry out their duties.

7.2 Nothing in this agreement shall prevent access to and use of the Archipelago by fishermen for essential activities in support of fishing in adjacent waters, consistent with guidelines for the care, protection and enjoyment of the Archipelago.

## 8.0 AUTHORIZATION AND EXECUTION

8.1 This Agreement will be authorized and executed by both parties in the following manner:

- (a) in the case of the Council of the Haida Nation, by the Vice President upon ratification by way of a Special Resolution in accordance with the Constitution of the Haida Nation; and,
- (b) in the case of the Government of Canada, upon fulfillment of the process referred to in sub-paragraph 8.1(a), by the Minister of the Environment after and under the authority of legislation passed by the Parliament of Canada amending the National Parks Act and designating all or part of the Archipelago as a reserve for a National Park.

8.2 This Agreement, and any subsequent amendment thereto that has been agreed to in writing by both parties, shall:

- (i) take effect when it has been executed by both parties in the manner set out in sub-clause 8.1;
- (ii) apply to those parts of the Archipelago where the respective designations of a reserve for a National Park of Canada and Haida Heritage Site coincide;
- (iii) remain in effect until:
  - (a) resolution of the divergent viewpoints of the parties with respect to sovereignty, title or ownership provides otherwise, or
  - (b) it is terminated sooner by agreement of the parties or pursuant to Section 8.3.

8.3 The parties shall jointly review this Agreement two years after it comes into effect and thereafter each five years. In addition, at any time after the initial two-year review, either party may request a special review by providing written notice to the other party. In either case, the review shall be completed within a six month period.

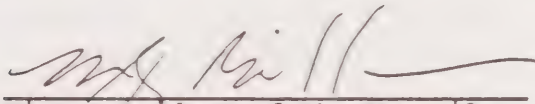
8.4 After the expiry of the six month review period provided for in section 8.3 above and within three months, either party may terminate the Agreement on six months' unconditional notice to the other party. Any notice to terminate shall be authorized on the part of the Council of the Haida Nation by a Special Resolution in accordance with the Constitution of the Haida Nation, and on the part of the Government of Canada by an Order of the Governor-in-Council in accordance with legislation passed by the Parliament of Canada amending the National Parks Act.



9.0 WITHOUT PREJUDICE

9.1 This Agreement represents both parties' understanding of their reciprocal good faith and common cause in the protection and preservation of the Archipelago, and is without prejudice to the viewpoint of either party respecting sovereignty, ownership or title. This Agreement shall not constitute or be deemed to constitute a land claims agreement or treaty within the meaning of Section 35 of the Constitution Act of Canada 1982, nor shall it or any actions taken pursuant to it be construed as creating, affirming, recognizing or denying any aboriginal or treaty right or as transferring any competence of either party.

9.2 Nothing in this Agreement shall fetter or limit, or be deemed to fetter or limit, in any manner the rights, jurisdiction, authority, obligations or responsibilities of either party or their representatives, except to the extent of the requirement that all reasonable efforts must have been made to reach consensus through the process set out in section 5 of this Agreement.


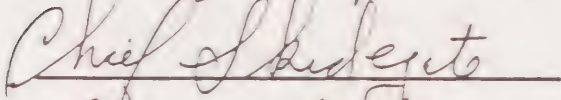

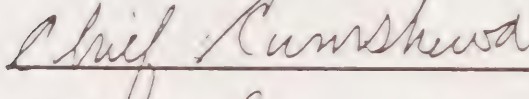

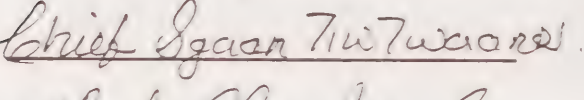

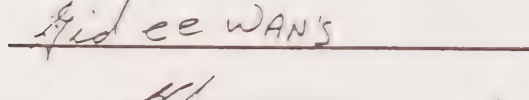

  
~~W~~ President of the Council  
of the Haida Nation

  
Minister of the Environment



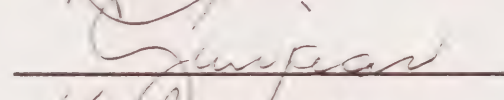




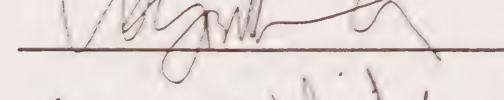

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 30/1/93

Witnesses

Witnesses

Appendix 1 and 2 in the original Gwaii Haanas Agreement delineate the boundaries of the Haida Heritage Site and the National Park Reserve. These boundaries are shown on the back cover of the attached newsletter. Appendix 3 delineates the boundary of the Archipelago Marine Area.

#### APPENDIX 4

### **1.0 FUNDING**

1.1 Subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, the Minister of the Environment will enter into a contribution agreement with an authorized representative of the Council of the Haida Nation, the amount of which will be negotiated to be sufficient to pay all reasonable costs pertaining to the participation of the Council of the Haida Nation in the AMB, including two members as described in Section 4.4 of this Agreement; and the nominal period of which will be up to two (2) years with terms of renewal thereafter to be negotiated as required.

1.2 The Minister of the Environment and an authorized representative of the Council of the Haida Nation may also enter into additional and separate contracts respecting provision of certain services and facilities pertaining to the operation and management of the Archipelago.

### **2.0 SELECTION OF CANADIAN PARKS SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

2.1 It is the parties' objective that Haida individuals be encouraged and given opportunities for employment with the Canadian Parks Service in the Archipelago. To this end, the Government of Canada agrees, pursuant to applicable legislation and the availability of positions, to provide training to assist Haida individuals to qualify for employment opportunities.

2.2 With respect to the selection of employees for positions with the Canadian Parks Service in the Archipelago, pursuant to the applicable legislation of Canada, selection boards comprising equal numbers of representatives of the parties will be established to consider the required qualifications for the positions, assess the qualifications of the candidates and make recommendations to the designated officer of the Government of Canada.

2.3 The Government of Canada agrees that statements of qualifications for the selection of employees for positions with the Canadian Parks Service in the Archipelago will recognize the importance of an ability to work effectively in support of the objectives of this Agreement and, where appropriate, will require knowledge and understanding of Haida heritage and culture.





## A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE



Mary Collins, the then Minister of State for the Environment for Canada, and Miles Richardson, the President of the Council of the Haida Nation, signing the Gwaii Haanas Agreement in Old Massett.

### **SIGNING THE GWAII HAANAS AGREEMENT**

In January of 1993, the Gwaii Haanas Agreement was signed in Old Massett on Haida Gwaii (the Queen Charlotte Islands). The agreement deals with the region designated by the Haida Nation as a "Haida Heritage Site" and by Canada as a "National Park Reserve."

Formulated with respect for both Canadian and Haida interests, the agreement includes a commitment by both parties to the protection of Gwaii Haanas for all time. It is a stated objective to sustain the continuity of Haida Culture.

The agreement sets out the terms of a unique cooperative arrangement, pending the settlement of outstanding ownership and jurisdictional matters.

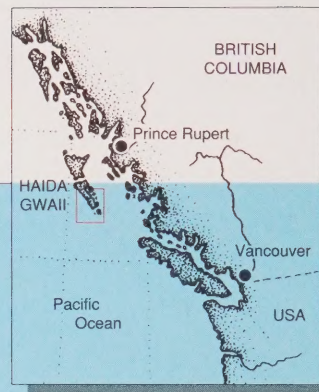
Under the terms of the agreement, Gwaii Haanas is managed by a board on which the Council of the Haida Nation and the Government of Canada are equally represented. Board members are responsible to their respective governments for ensuring that their legislation, policies and agreements are adhered to.

The Archipelago Management Board makes decisions on planning, management and operations by consensus.



# GWAII HAANAS

HAIDA HERITAGE SITE & NATIONAL PARK RESERVE



HAIDA HERITAGE SITE  
NATIONAL PARK RESERVE

